UNITED NATIONS **A S**

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/323
S/1995/640
2 August 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Items 28 and 92 of the provisional agenda*
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OF CROATIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 1 August 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Missions of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the joint letter dated 1 August 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Muhamed Sacirbey, and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, Mate Granić, addressed to the five-nation Contact Group on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to Mr. Carl Bildt, Co-Chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia.

We would kindly request your assistance in circulating this letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under items 28 and 92 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan Z. MISIC
Chargé d'affaires of the
Permanent Mission of the Republic
of Bosnia and Herzegovina to
the United Nations

(Signed) Vladimir DROBNJAK
Chargé d'affaires of the
Permanent Mission of the Republic
of Croatia to the United Nations

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Annex

Letter dated 1 August 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia addressed to the Contact Group and to the Co-Chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia

On 5 July 1995, we forwarded our joint communication to the Security Council indicating our position regarding the issues of mutual recognition, effective border closing and the easing of sanctions with the respect to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). It is our view that this position has not been taken into consideration and in the latest proposals brought forth as a result of extensive discussions between Mr. Carl Bildt and the authorities in Belgrade. In addition, it is our view that the actions of Belgrade with respect to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia have not been consistent with the objectives of mutual recognition.

More specifically, the proposals forwarded do not include mutual recognition between the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), but at best a "mirage" recognition of some of Bosnia and Herzegovina only as defined by Mr. Milošević and the authorities of the Belgrade regime, which is unacceptable to our Governments. Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina cannot lend their support to such a policy change.

In addition, there are no concrete measures to reverse the consequences of aggression and, in particular, the closing of the border. The existing partial suspension of the sanctions with respect to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) can no longer be justified on the theory that Belgrade regime has really closed the border. To the contrary, recent developments in eastern and western Bosnia and Herzegovina offer ample proof that the Belgrade Government and, specifically Mr. Milošević, has not only failed to influence the so-called Croatian and Bosnian Serbs positively, but has effectively encouraged them to intensify their military option and ethnic cleansing.

Threatening amassing of the Army of Yugoslavia troops and heavy armour on a large scale in Eastern Slavonia before the eyes of the United Nations forces testifies even more clearly as to the real aims and goals of the Milošević regime: territorial aggrandizement and annexation of parts of the sovereign territories of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The sanctions thus must not be further suspended or alleviated until the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) publicly renounces and in practice refrains from occupation of parts of the sovereign territories of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia.

In this light, we consider any plans aimed at any further easing of the sanctions, including proposals to that effect presently being circulated, as totally unjustified and extremely detrimental to the interests of peace and

security in the area. As a matter of fact, just the opposite is called for if tranquillity is to return to south-eastern Europe.

Finally, the "sanctions easing" methodology is unacceptable as well as inconsistent with the term "suspension".

We, for our part, remain fully prepared to participate in a constructive dialogue regarding mutual recognition between the three countries and to effect the consequences in our countries and borders.

It is our hope that, while deliberating your next move, you will bear fully in mind the positions of our two Governments as stated above.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY

(Signed) Mate GRANIĆ